

21 April 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Tweedy, D/DCI/IC

SUBJECT : Comments re Proposed Changes to NSCIC Working Group Terms of Reference

I have listed below the proposals received from the Working Group members regarding the draft terms of reference handed out at the 12 April meeting, and my comments on those proposals:

Ed Proctor

Proposal: Broaden membership by including CIEP, Treasury and Commerce.

Comment: The nominees are interested only in economic intelligence and are not members of the NSCIC. I do not consider it appropriate to add them without also proposing these departments and the CIEP be added to the NSCIC, which I do not believe is appropriate.

Proposal: Reduce the "Methods of Operation" section to a few essentials.

Comment: Agree. I see no harm in dropping this section entirely, but if anything is retained, I suggest it be sub-paragraphs a, e, f, and g.

Vice Adm. Weinel

Proposes no changes.

Andy Marshall

Proposal: Amend page 3, item c (2) as follows: (referring to types of proposals for Working Group sponsorship)

"(2) Evaluating the response and quality responsiveness of intelligence products, particularly as they relate to selected subject areas of interest or to international crisis situations."

Comment: I prefer "responsiveness" to "response" but otherwise accept the change.

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Proposal: Find some better way to handle the decision making process within the Working Group considering the balance existing between producer and consumer organizations.

Comment: This can be handled either by (1) deleting any reference to the manner in which decisions will be reached, or (2) by amending paragraph 7 f as follows:

"f. Decisions concerning Working Group sponsorship of individual projects will be reached by consensus among those members representing NSCIC principals.

(This would mean a consensus among the chairman, Maroney, Hall, Weiss, Weinel, and Marshall.)

Andy's other two proposals do not relate to the terms of reference, but call for another type reaction.

Proposal: Some means must be devised to provide "a handle on the problem of assisting the NSCIC to provide guidance as to the needs of the top level policy makers.

Comment: This is already being handled in part by the submission of the DCID 1/2 Supplement to Dr. Kissinger. His comments, presented to the NSCIC for any further discussion desired, will provide guidance to the intelligence community. Provision that each annual revision of the Supplement go to the NSCIC for approval would further formalize the process.

Another possibility would be to have the annual revision of the Objectives and Priorities matrix accomplished by a task group representing members of the NSCIC.

I also suggest:

a. A study be made as to the feasibility of having the NSCIC as a body approve the schedules for production of NIE's and perhaps of having terms of reference for NIE's submitted to the NSCIC for approval.

b. A format be developed for submission to NSCIC members on which they would indicate the types of current intelligence topics on which they would like particular attention given in the next quarters. If a trade negotiation with Saudi Arabia was coming up, the NSCIC could indicate an interest in this topic and information which might not otherwise be considered important enough to get into the CIB would be reported because this was a topic on which policy

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Proposal: A descriptive study should be produced on "the current working of the requirements process and other influences upon the allocation of collection resources."

Comment: This could be accomplished as a PRG project if desired. In fact, it could turn out to be quite an informative document, because it could pull together data that is not now available in any one place. The classification would be high in order to cover the special programs.

I am not at all certain such a study would be of any help to NSCIC principals, but it might have other uses, particularly in the NSCIC Working Group.

25X1A9a [REDACTED] could be action officer for the study.

(si [REDACTED])

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① - Subject file

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